

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held September 26, 2002

Attendees: Chairman Elia Germani, Commissioner Kate Racine, Commissioner Brenda Gaynor, Steve Frias, Cindy Wilson, Thomas Massaro, Alan Nault and Luly Massaro.

Chairman Germani called the open meeting to order at 1:00 PM in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.

Competitive Telecommunications Service Providers:

The following companies submitted tariff revisions. The Division has reviewed the tariff filings and does not recommend suspension of:

3028 – Qwest Communications Corp.
2702 – Verizon Select Services, Inc.
3196 – Z-Tel Communications, Inc.
2472 – Sprint Communications
3442 – BullsEye Telecom, Inc.
3315 – T-NETIX Communications Services, Inc.
2262(D) – Operator Service Co.
2262(Z) – Intellicall Operator Services, Inc.
2262(K8) – Long Distance of Michigan, Inc.
2262(U) – Touch 1 Communications, Inc.
2262(E6) – WordxChange Corp.

After review, the Commission followed the Division's recommendation that the tariff filings be allowed to go into effect without suspension.

The following companies ceased operations in RI and request that that their authority to provide telecommunications services be rescinded. The Division supports the requests of:

3156 – Advanced TelCom, Inc.
2262(V11) – Least Cost Routing
2262(A14) – Advanced TelCom, Inc.
2262(T7) – Shared Communications Services, Inc.
2262(E11) – Telecommunications Cooperative Network, Inc.

After review, Chairman Germani asked for a motion and Commissioner Racine moved to rescind the registration of the company. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gaynor and unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Verizon RI Interconnection Agreements (ICAs):

The following ICAs were submitted for approval. The Division has reviewed the ICAs and recommends approval of:

3205 – Amendment to ICA entered w/ Lightship Telecom
3137 – Amendment to ICA entered w/ Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless

After review, Chairman Germani asked for a motion and Commissioner Racine moved to approve the ICAs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gaynor and unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3466 - Verizon Rhode Island: The Company submitted a tariff revision to RIPUC No. 18 to provide CLECs the option to order single security access cards for their authorized employees or contractors in order to gain access to Verizon's facilities and collocation arrangements. After review, the Commission followed the Division's recommendation that the tariff filing be allowed to go into effect without suspension.

3363 – Verizon Rhode Island: The Company submitted a tariff revision to RIPUC No. 18 to provide for the quarterly update of the Unbundled TC Reciprocal Compensation Charge. The unbundled TC reciprocal compensation composite rates are recalculated on a quarterly basis to reflect the average rate per minute paid to CLECs by the telephone company over the previous three-month charge. After review, the Commission followed the Division's recommendation that the tariff filing be allowed to go into effect without suspension.

3378 – Pawtucket Water Supply Board (“PWSB”): In Order No. 16949 (issued March 14, 2002), the Commission approved a Settlement Agreement between the PWSB, Division and the City of Central Falls which allows PWSB to collect additional operating revenues and requires PWSB to restrict several accounts, including the infrastructure replacement (IFR) account. On September 9, 2002, the PWSB filed a Motion for Relief from Order No. 16949, requesting that the Commission allow PWSB to use \$245,000 from the restricted IFR account to perform the removal of sludge from drying beds and settling basins and cleaning of the sludge basins. Due to a delay for reasons beyond PWSB's control in the awarding of the vendor contract for the new water treatment plant (which would have included the necessary sludge removal and basin cleaning services), PWSB must now undertake this project itself in order to prevent water quality from falling below state and federal water quality standards. PWSB lacks sufficient funds in its O&M budget to complete the sludge removal and cleaning project; however, PWSB says it has sufficient funds in its IFR account to fund the sludge removal and cleaning project, estimated to cost \$245,000. The Division supports PWSB's request, noting that release of these funds from the IFR account will avert the need for PWSB to make a rate increase filing to fund the work. After discussion, Commissioner Racine moved to grant PWSB's Motion for Relief from Order No. 16949 as filed. Commissioner Racine also requested that PWSB report on the effect the use of these IFR funds will have on the ongoing water main cleaning and replacement program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gaynor and unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3467 – Peoples Redevelopment Corporation (“PRC”): PRC filed a petition pursuant to RIGL 39-2-15.1 requesting that the Commission order the public utilities with facilities in the service area to disconnect and temporarily remove, as necessary, utility lines, conduits, poles, etc., along a proposed path to allow for the relocation of two houses to be used as low-income housing for at least 10 years. Atty Wilson reported that all documentation required by the statute is in order for the Commission to approve

PRC's request. After review, Commissioner Racine moved to approve the petition. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gaynor, who additionally requested that the affected public utilities inform the Commission of their respective costs associated with the relocation of the two houses. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Narragansett Bay Commission (NBC): Commissioner Racine noted that NBC is holding a public information session tonight on the CSO project. She pointed out that the notice of the session published in the Providence Journal is incorrect in that it indicates that cost of the CSO project is \$270 million. However, a recent compliance report filed by NBC indicates that the CSO costs have escalated beyond \$270 million. Commissioner Racine requested that NBC provide most recent cost estimates for the CSO project at tonight's public meeting.

The open meeting adjourned at 1:30 P.M.